

## The Offertory collection at Masses

last weekend amounted to €

*This collection is for the ordinary day-to-day running and maintenance of the parish.*

*Donations for Church Renovations gratefully accepted at Parish Office - or they can be lodged directly into:*

**Ascension Church Building Fund A/c  
at AIB Bank  
IE65 AIBK 934194 32642064**

### SUNDAY DUTY ROTA

**November 8, 2020.**

A priest can be contacted if required  
this Sunday at:  
**Gurranabraher 085 804 1951**

*“For those who sought renown  
and honour... by always doing good  
there will be eternal life;  
for the unsubmitive who refused  
to take the truth for their guide –  
and took depravity instead -  
there will be anger and fury.  
Pain and suffering will come to  
every human being  
who employs himself in evil.”  
(Luke 2: 7-10)*

## Mass Intentions this Week

**Sat. 7. November**

6pm.

**Sun 8.**

9am.

11.30am. *(Due to the Covid-19 Lock-down*

**Mon 9.** *Public Masses have been suspended -*

8am.

*booked Masses will be re-arranged*

10am.

*later).*

**Tue 10.**

8am.

10am.

**Wed 11.**

8am.

10am.

**Thu 12.**

8am.

10am.

**Fri 13.**

8am.

10am.

**Sat 14.**

10am. *Pro Populo.*

***We pray for those recently deceased...***

*Edward King, Cnoc Mhuire, Fair Street.*

***Requiescat in Pace.***

**Gurranabraher Parish asks you to please  
consider dropping a few Euro into our  
Credit Union Account –  
Church of the Ascension Renovation Fund -  
A/c No. 02255200.**



## Ascension Parish

Gurranabraher, Cork.

Sunday, November 8, 2020.

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**

**Parish Office – 021 - 430 3655 (If Urgent: 085 - 804 1951)**

email: [ascensionparish123@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionparish123@gmail.com)

Website: [www.gurranabraherparish.ie](http://www.gurranabraherparish.ie)

### **Priests of the Parish:**

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. [Tel: 021-4303 658](tel:021-4303658). (walshtomas@hotmail.com)

Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. Tel: 021-439 7472. ([aidan1302@gmail.com](mailto:aidan1302@gmail.com))

**Weekend Masses – Saturday 6pm (Vigil) & Sundays – 9am & 11.30am.**

### **What constitutes Western Civilization**

Western Civilization has grown out of three distinct forces that have been inextricably interwoven to provide an unrivalled ‘worldview’ on what constitutes integral human development. These three forces are, i) the Judeo-Christian faith, ii) the philosophy of Athens and iii) the Law of Rome. The unique input from all three has produced a model of society that has allowed humankind, unlike no other, reach a very high level of human flourishing.

American thinker, George Weigel, notes the distinct contribution of each: “Jerusalem, or biblical religion, taught the West that history is going somewhere, that humanity’s story is linear... It was biblical religion that taught that foundational lesson and provided cultural “support:” first, through God’s self-revelation to the people of Israel and, definitively, in God’s self-revelation through the second person of the Blessed Trinity, born into history from Mary of Nazareth.

What about ‘Athens’? Classical philosophy, beginning with the pre-Socratics in the seventh century before Christ, taught the West that there are truths (including moral truths) built into the world and into us... That conviction that human beings have the capacity to grasp the truth of things has been crucial to the civilization of the West. Without it, there would have been no development of ethics, no development of science and no development of a humane politics.

What about ‘Rome’? The Roman Republic gave the Western civilizational project the crucial idea that the rule of law is superior to mere brute force in ordering public life. Think of Cicero, who was both a serious political philosopher and a practicing politician – arguably a greater philosopher than a successful politician. In any event, Cicero symbolizes the most important Roman contribution to the Western civilizational project: the idea that the rule of law is superior to coercion as human beings structure their common life in society. (George Weigel, 2020)

### **Novena of Masses for our Dead**

The November Novena Masses for the Dead started on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of November, 2020, and will continue until Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup>. During those days all who have died of every place and time are remembered – but we also remember in a very special way those whom parishioners have asked us to pray for during this Novena. The list of names sent in by parishioners is now placed before the Altar beside a lighted candle for the duration of the Novena.

### **Christmas Triduum Mass Cards**

Mass Cards that will remember in a Triduum of Masses, all those whom the Cards will reach this approaching Christmas are now available in Parish Office (and in Sacristy during weekend Masses). The three Masses will be offered on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> December. These Masses will be offered up that God's love and peace may reign in each heart and home over the Christmas period - and throughout the coming Year. **Cards are €2 Euro each – 3 for €5.**

### **Booking of Masses in 2021**

From January, 2021, two intentions will be taken for each of the Masses celebrated at Ascension parish. This move has become necessary due to the large amount of Masses not said in 2020 because of the Covid-19 Lockdown – and which need to be rescheduled. Having two intentions for a Mass is normal practice in many churches in the Diocese.

### **Church open for Private Worship**

While Ireland is on Covid-19 Level 5 with its general lock-down - thus preventing Mass from being celebrated publicly – our Church remains open for private worship from 10am to 3.30pm daily. We encourage our parishioners to avail of this opportunity to call to the church and commune with their God - and light a candle for a world and a Church that has gone mad. The fact that Mass cannot be celebrated publicly in Ireland, the only country in Europe in this position, is deplorable. Let us storm heaven for this madness to end.

### **RTE Mass from Cork Cathedral this Sunday**

The RTE Mass on this Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, is from the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne, Cork. Bishop Fintan Gavin will be the celebrant of the Mass to be broadcast on the RTE News Now channel on Sunday at 2.15pm. RTÉ News Now can be accessed on Saorview (channel 21), Sky (521), Virgin Media (200), Eir (517) as well as via the RTÉ Player, the RTÉ News Now app and via RTÉ.ie/news.

### **Radio Maria – Ireland**

Radio Maria is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Through Prayer, Catechesis, uplifting music, talks, Interviews and testimonies it hopes to deepen the Catholic faith of believers. Tune-in via TV on Saorview - Channel 210; or Download our Free App – 'Radio Maria Ireland'. Also, streaming on www.radiomaria.ie or via Phone – get live radio feed by telephoning 01 437 3277 (no extra charges apply). Please join our growing faith family!

### **Visit Ascension Parish Website – [gurrabraherparish.ie](http://gurrabraherparish.ie)**

We invite parishioners to visit our website – [gurrabraherparish.ie](http://gurrabraherparish.ie) - regularly. As well as finding the latest news from the parish there are useful links to other sites. The weekly Newsletter is also available on the site.

### **Sin unchecked Destroys us**

In this month of November when the Church is engaged in a great crusade of prayer for these who have died – we are called to look at our own lives – to reflect on our own mortality and to come right with our God. Pope Benedict reminds us that "when one is not aware of the judgment of God, when one does not recognize the possibility of hell, of the radical and definitive failure of life, then one does not recognize the possibility and necessity for purification."

He noted that ideologies, such as communism, that promised to build the world the way it was supposed to have been, instead destroyed the world. Responsibility toward the earth and toward humanity living today in fact rested on awareness of God - and man's capacity to sin. "We must speak specifically of sin as the possibility of destroying oneself, and thus also other parts of the earth." Pope Benedict said his encyclical 'Spe Salvi' was an attempt to demonstrate that it is precisely the last judgment of God that guarantees justice. God's justice is for all, even for the dead, and only the resurrection of the body can create that justice.

Pope Benedict summarized a modern approach to sin that denies its importance – and the belief that God will be good to all..."It's a nice hope. But there is justice, and there is real blame. Those who have destroyed man and the earth cannot sit immediately at the table of God, together with their victims."

Purgatory offers hope to men with a 'final willingness' to live according to God, the Pope said. "We need to be prepared, to be purified. This is our hope: even with so much filth in our soul, in the end the Lord gives us the possibility, He washes us finally with his goodness that comes from his cross. He thus makes us capable of living for Him forever."

### **Display a Religious Object from the windows of your homes**

With no end of Covid-19 in sight; and with a great sense of hopelessness evident everywhere - one of the ways that we can reassure our world in these troubled times is for parishioners to display a religious object from the windows of their houses. A picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus or one of the Blessed Virgin Mary, (or any other saint), can give a powerful message that God and his Elect are with his people in these moments of danger and confusion. Such a display will let others know that you are praying for the world and for an end to this scourge that overwhelms us.

### **Our Morning Offering**

*Father, I offer you all the prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day, in union with the offering that Jesus made, and continues to make, in the Holy Mass. I offer them with all who are alive in you, whether they are living or dead. May I draw strength from those who have already proved their faith and become the instrument of giving strength to those who have not. Amen.*